



Commencement

May 7, 2018

WELCOME

Congratulations to each of you on this special day! In order to ensure everyone's enjoyment, we ask that you observe the following guidelines.

Ticketed guests are invited to be seated in any of the open seating areas of Chaifetz Arena. If you need to use accessible seating, please ask for assistance from a member of the Chaifetz guest services personnel located in the main concourse. Only the graduating students and those participating in the ceremony are permitted on the arena floor at any time. For those unable to attend the ceremony, it will be simulcast live online.

Visit **www.fontbonne.edu/commencement18** to link to the live stream.

In order to keep distractions to a minimum, please turn off the ringer on your cell phone and avoid loud conversations with fellow guests so that everyone may hear the speakers' presentations and the graduates' names as they are announced. Noisemaking devices of any kind are not permitted in the arena.

Guests are not allowed to stand in the aisles or along the railing during the ceremony.

Restrooms are located throughout the main concourse of the arena.

Concessions are also available in the main concourse both before and during the event.

Chaifetz Arena is a non-smoking facility, including the use of e-cigarettes. A smoking exit is available at Gate E.

A professional photographer will take individual pictures of all graduates as they cross the stage to receive their diplomas.

At the end of the ceremony, we encourage you to immediately exit the arena via the exit doors closest to you off the main concourse area. Graduates will exit directly outside from the lower level of the arena. You may meet your graduates outside, on the north side of the arena, immediately following the ceremony.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation!

WWW.FONTBONNE.EDU/COMMENCEMENT18
#GRIFFINGRAD18

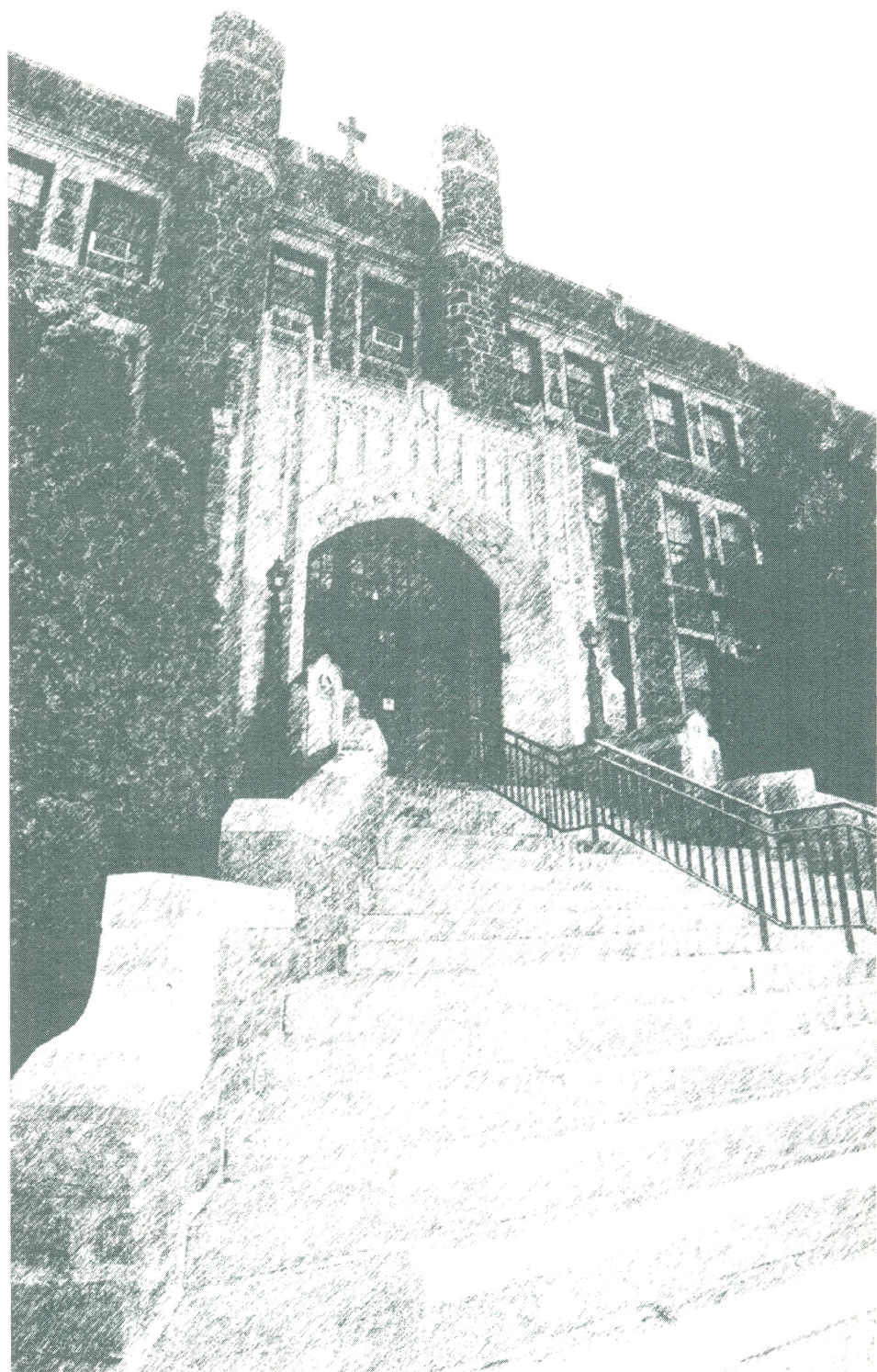
COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Monday, May 7, 2018, 4 p.m.

Invocation	Lori Helfrich, M.Div. <i>Director of Campus Ministry</i>
Star-Spangled Banner	Michelle Palumbo, M.A., B.S. '02 <i>Associate Vice President for Admission</i>
Welcome and Introduction	J. Michael Pressimone, Ed.D. <i>President</i>
	Dennis G. Gipson <i>Chair, Board of Trustees</i>
Remarks by Graduating Student	James Christopher Wiggins, B.A. '18
Conferring of Honorary Degree	J. Michael Pressimone, Ed.D. <i>President</i>
Introduction of Commencement Speaker	J. Michael Pressimone, Ed.D. <i>President</i>
Commencement Address	Adelaide Lancaster, M.A., M.Ed.
Presentation of Master's Degree Candidates	Carey H. Adams, Ph.D. <i>Vice President for Academic Affairs</i>
Conferring of Master's Degrees	J. Michael Pressimone, Ed.D. <i>President</i>
Presentation of Undergraduate Degree Candidates	Carey H. Adams, Ph.D. <i>Vice President for Academic Affairs</i>
Conferring of Undergraduate Degrees	J. Michael Pressimone, Ed.D. <i>President</i>
Alumni Hood Award	Clayton Bond, B.S. '18
Welcome to the Alumni Association	Jennifer Millikan, M.A., B.S. '96 <i>President of the Fontbonne Alumni Association</i>
Alumni Chain Ceremony	Gabrielle Marie Campa, B.S. '18
	Ian Francis Farmer, M.S. '18
Benediction	Fr. Speratus Kamanzi, Ph.D. <i>University Chaplain</i>

Celebrating 50 Years

Leading today's procession are members of the class of 1968. We are honored by their presence.



COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

MASTER OF ARTS

Merlin Bell
Rattanan Chaipet
Michelle I. Childs
Glenda Jo Jedlicka
Haley Kuhlhoff

Gena Antoinette Loseto
Joshua Osburg
Sean Powers
Andrea Robb
Brian J. Rolf

Matthew G. Steiniger
Allison Marie Summers
Bhanu Chandar Sunkara
Michael R. Tucker

MASTER OF FINE ARTS

Samuel Bazdresch
Glenda Jo Jedlicka*
Laura Morris Lebeda*

Joshua Osburg
Nicole Shanks
Xiaolin Tan

Dan Alan Wine

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Gourav Bhatt
Tejas Yadav Bheemakanahalli
Narayanaswamy

Kirsten Elizabeth Caiazzo
Saritha Gujja
Vikram Hegde

Candance A.N. Hurd*
Janice Myers

BONNIE AND L.B. ECKELKAMP COLLEGE OF GLOBAL BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

MASTER OF ACCOUNTANCY

Thomas Harp

Monique Kelly

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Sandra F. Baylor
Nya Beckwith*
D'Angelo Martez Bell
Taylor Renea Bond
Nikole Bowen
Sheila Brooks*
Shirley Misako Bruno

Pongsakon Chayavipart
Sankeerthana Chukka
Jania R. Crockett
Robert Thomas Cronley*
Cherylynne LaTessa
Dantzler-Davenport
Shannon Lola Jorja Dickson

Maria Lujan Figueroa
Russell Flores
Cameo Chanel Foster
Ghassan Samir Gamal*
Angel Roberto
Garcia-Chavarria
Suman GC

*July 31, 2018 graduation

**December 14, 2018 graduation

°Dual Degrees

†Dual Majors

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (CONTINUED)

LaWanda Shonta Glenn	Leah Bethany Meyer	Donyell Yvette Simmons
James A. Gray	Deeksha Milagani	Gary Stennis
Suzannah Heisler	Dean Arnold Nelson	Janell Torry
Kaylee Huelsing	Niju Nesamony	Trang Thi Thu Truong
Michael A. Lages	Hung Thanh Nguyen	Briana Alicia Usand-Burton*
Amy Lindenbusch	Arthit Pattamavorakunchai	Taylor Ventimiglia*
Gary Livak	Nhan Phan	Dung Ngoc Hoang Vu
Santosh Reddy Maddi	DeAmbra Pilkinton	Justin D. Wallace*
Brittany Catherine Marquart*	William Jaime Price*	Murial Velinda Wells
Sarah Kaitlin McDonough*	Bishakha Sah	Betty Wise
Thomas J. Menderski	Birju Kumar Shah Kalwar	

MASTER OF MANAGEMENT

Michael J. Ehlert	Debra Hoffman
Keisha M. Green	Jeffrey Lazar Zelenovich

MASTER OF MANAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP

Michael Thomas Burke	Jessica Hellmann	Morgan D. Tennell-Powell
Susan Daskalakis	Melanie Johnson	
Jobyna Foster	Heather Riley**	

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Robert I. Briere	Andrew Michael Grossman	Keisha L. Laura*
Kenneth Buck II	Christopher Halbach	Chan Basha Mandyam
John Fitzgerald Dabbs	Ryan Adam Hanneken	Mindi D. Meyer
Sonja Davis	Amy M. Holtz*	Melanie Christina Noblett*
Kellie N. Elmore	Christopher R. Irving	Augustine Smith
Kevin Paul Filip	Tanisha Lynette Jackson	Christopher Ryan Wolfmeier
Danielle Glixman	Joshua Young Johnson	Shiyang Xu
Brandon Grissom	Kelley Maureen Kastner*	

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS

MASTER OF ARTS

Alaa Abdulrahman Alzahrani	Jennifer Belmar	Kahli Jo Brubaker Peachey
Peter Daniel Backus	Jessica Britten	Emily Burghoff
Jordan Ashley Batson	Sterling J. Brown	Jessica Cloyd

MASTER OF ARTS (CONTINUED)

Anna Kathleen Croghan	Eryn Kleimann	Erica Elizabeth Ryals
Haley Christine Currant	Jodi Nicole Kremer	Kacy Shaffer
Meghan DeGreeff	Keyana Lewis	Samantha Snarzyk
Nicole Dirnbeck	Jaquin D. McBride	Allex Snyder
Lauren E. Freeman*	Lindsay Rose McClymont	Ann Marie Tentschert
Danielle Gaucher*	Liam Daniel McGoldrick*	Hannah Thornburgh
Leia Giovannella*	Terrell Mobley	Victoria Vandever
Brooke Guidry	Deborah Christine Mongillo	Madison Rayne Walat*
Renee Henderson	Alexandria Marie Mueller	Amanda Marie Walker
Danielle Nichole James	Mechelle A.R. Neuerburg	Cierra Washington
Cailin Jillson*	Kenneth H. Peacock	
Stephanie Ann Keselich	Sarah Ann Rogers	

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Samantha Baker	Lyndsay LaBrier	Allegra Squitieri
Emily Elizabeth Conley	Kimberly Lorange	Catherine Jo Stone
Karen Deon	Todd Martin	Keli Sullivan
Megan Moffitt Eilers	Kristen Elizabeth Minich	Samantha Rose Tempesta
Teagan R. Ellis	Jessica Overschmidt	Christine Tipton
Megan Fischer	Timinika P. Rucker	Kevin Tucker
Ashley N. Fleece	Bridget Sevigny	Chanel L. Webb
Megan Geisz	Brittany N. Smith	

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Rachel Anna Allison	Jessica Lynn Cochran	Loren Michelle Kreher
Nikki Lynn Arand	Kaycee A. Crofton	Jessica Moore
Aubrey Atwater	Amanda Kathleen DeWitt	Jannah Noelle Nicholson*
Alyssa Kay Avant	Carissa Lynn Dodge	Brooke René Prigge
Heather Bielefeld	Ian Francis Farmer	Samantha Sawatzky*
Valerie Marie Bowie	John William Fletcher	Kelli N. Showers
Kelly Elizabeth Brooks	Martha Grace Guariglia	Esther M. Solomon
Christina Cejas*	Claire Elizabeth Gunn	Theresa Visintine
I-Chen Chan	Kelsey Heisserer	
Kelly Rene Clarkson	Susan Mary James	

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Lauren Elizabeth Artelt [°] <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Abrar Hamoh**	Ashley M. Schimmelpfennig
Clayton Bond [°]	Sarah Ashlyn Jimenez	Lucy Stoecklin <i>Cum Laude/University Scholar</i>
Amethyst Brock	Courtney Paige Kedroski [°]	Fannie White Terrell <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Terragan Julian Shawn Brouk [†] <i>Cum Laude/University Scholar</i>	Matthew Key	Carly Uding
Allison Brown	Lindsay M. King	Courtney Nicole Volkman*
John Cantalin	Emily Jane Klein [°] <i>Cum Laude</i>	Ellen Catherine Weaver** [†]
Jessica Erin Coryell	Catherine Mary Maschmeyer <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	James Christopher Wiggins
Kelly Davis <i>Cum Laude</i>	Paige McDonald	
Lauren Abigail Geisz <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Christina Ann Minzer	
	Claire Nicole Nutter [†]	
	Stephen Peterson**	
	Madison Christine Ratay	

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Lauren Arens	Lorraine Elizabeth	Natalie Rae Mueller <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Lauren Elizabeth Artelt [°] <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Harper Cange <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Sarah Jennifer Skaggs
Jenifer Michelle Buffington*		Morgan Winston

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Mohanad Abdulrahman Alotaibi**	Angel Castaneda Galdos	Anthony Matthew Prospero [†] <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Jackson Bushdiecker <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Cori Jean Gould <i>Cum Laude</i>	Madeline Marie Redohl <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Alyssa Jane Cameron*	Kayla F. Hayes	William McKenzie Reynolds
Megan Marie Camp <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Austin C. Huelsing	Monica Roach
Madalyn Cooksey <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Maria Kavanaugh [†] <i>Cum Laude</i>	Daniel Rosas
Shynnel A. Cumming	Courtney Paige Kedroski [°]	Sarah L. Steiner [†]
Maggie Donnelly <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Yuri Khechoyan** [†]	Alexandra L. Thompson
Alayna M. Ducharme	Dzenana Mehmedovic	Khoa Dong Trieu
Kody Christopher Ettinger	Lillian Murphy <i>Cum Laude</i>	Keaton Lee Wall
Zhou Fang** [†]	Bethany M. Nieters	Meredith Lee Wendt
Allison Fox	Olivia R. Otten	Alys West** [†]
Alexandra Louise Gal <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Zackary Michael Pelker <i>Cum Laude</i>	Xu Yang
	Leah N. Perry <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	

BONNIE AND L.B. ECKELKAMP

COLLEGE OF GLOBAL BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Dawn M. Barajas
Kristen Beasley
Brian Todd Booker*

Melissa Eichhorn
Jennifer Lynn Fourcault
Tori Gabrielle Harrington

Shirley Morrow
Deonda Piffins

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Stephanie Baker

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Waleed Saud E. Almalki*
Zakaria Saud Almansour**
Abdulrahman Saleh

Alwadei*
Shane Ryan Benes
Clayton Bond^o
Shawn Boulton
Cum Laude

Joseph M. Clemente[†]
Devon Queen Chae Davis
Cum Laude

Claire Downey*
Zhou Fang***
Stephanie Kathryn Farrah
Dean's Award

Gregory Ferry
Michael Flynn-Carr
Anastasia Fowler
Morgan Gillespie
Brittany Hamilton
Magna Cum Laude

Kelsey Lynn Herschel
Ashley Horas
Breana Irvin*
Breyona Jackson

DeVanche Allante Jacobs
Nicholas Kenny[†]

Christopher Karl Kettinger*
Yuri Khechoyan**
Linsey Klein
Magna Cum Laude

Alex James Lamoreaux
Cole Tristan Lankford

Jaemi D. Littrell[†]
Cum Laude

Evan Monachello Lloyd[†]
Cum Laude

Carolyn Maddock
Dean's Award

Elaine Mafuli*
Slavisa Marjanovic[†]
Justin Marks
Rachel Anne McCulley[†]
Summa Cum Laude

Megan Moran*
Hannah Rose Mraz
Emily Marie Murray
Cum Laude

Connor William Nix
Nedim Novalic

Jacqueline Marie Pashia
Dean's Award

Alexander W. Phillips[†]
Anthony Pitaro*
Kisha Rabun
Veronica S. Ray
Cum Laude

Andrew Michael Santoyo[†]
Magna Cum Laude

Ryan Schocker*
Sarah Lynn Schraut[†]
Summa Cum Laude

Tyler Scott[†]
Min Sun[†]

Jake Ian Swanner
Cynthia A. Tangaro*
Eunice Sarah Taylor
Zachary N. Tullock
Taylor Ventimiglia[†]
Cum Laude

Meggin Virginia Mae
Werner
Alys West**
Blake M. Wisniewski
Nanxuan Wu**

*July 31, 2018 graduation

**December 14, 2018 graduation

^oDual Degrees

[†]Dual Majors

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

LaToucha Rachell Bell
Kenya Denise Foster
Aliyah Janeé Graves
Cum Laude
Carson Kendall Harris
Shamari Danté Logan
Jasen E. Martin
Dean's Award

Michaela Rose Mense
Alicia Marie Monroe
Dean's Award
Kim Van Nguyen
Stephen Peterson**
Holly Amanda Schneringer
Cum Laude

Joyce Marie Smith*
Toni Marie Thomas
Anna Grace Whitaker
Dean's Award
Breia Q. Williams*

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Kathryn Bender
Rachel Hampton
Hanah Jo Kliethermes
Dean's Award
Kelly Ann Piontek
Dean's Award
Eddie L. Provaznik

Molly McCloskey Ray
Tayler Rose
Cum Laude
Nick A. Rothweiler
Kateline Elizabeth Russom
Brigid Scherer
Tenosha Sewell

Devon Tolan
Dean's Award
Erica Weinstein
Chelsea Dena Wideman
Elizabeth Ann Wilke

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Leslie M. Agusti
Maggie Algya
Emily S. Andes
Cum Laude
Adrienne Randi Baker
Caroline Cristine Baker
Christine DeClerk Berg
Mike Boyd
Madeline Broekelmann
Summa Cum Laude
Melissa Lynn Richert Brown
Gabrielle Marie Campa
Magna Cum Laude
Gabrielle M. Cruts
Jennifer Cuddeback
Chelsea Ann Dill
Tory Shea Ellis
Stania Flowers*

Amanda Louise Garth
Cum Laude
Rachel Marie Gotsch
Jennifer Elizabeth Green
Cum Laude
Michelle Hanson
Raegene Inez Hope
Isabel Hotop
Summa Cum Laude
Emily Jane Klein*
Cum Laude
Lauren Kleis
Rachel Dolores Lammert
Jacob Paul Lendy
Magna Cum Laude
Amanda Rae Marino
Dean's Award
Seth T. Maul
Dean's Award

Kersten McDonough
Dean's Award
Sherri McMillian
Dean's Award
Melissa N. Melton
Dean's Award
Marissa Ann Moore
Meghan Amelia Murphy
Adam Michael Neff
Summa Cum Laude
Thao Nguyen
Magna Cum Laude
Danae Reeves
Alyssa Rae Regna
Dean's Award
Sarah Marie Rose
Cum Laude
Maryam Saffaf

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (CONTINUED)

Tylar M. Searcy

Paige Stamps

Kelsey Alexandra Swanson

Kelly Dawn Walsh

Dean's Award

Jessica Williams

Michelle Ann Wilson

University Scholar

Kayla R. Winkler

Summa Cum Laude

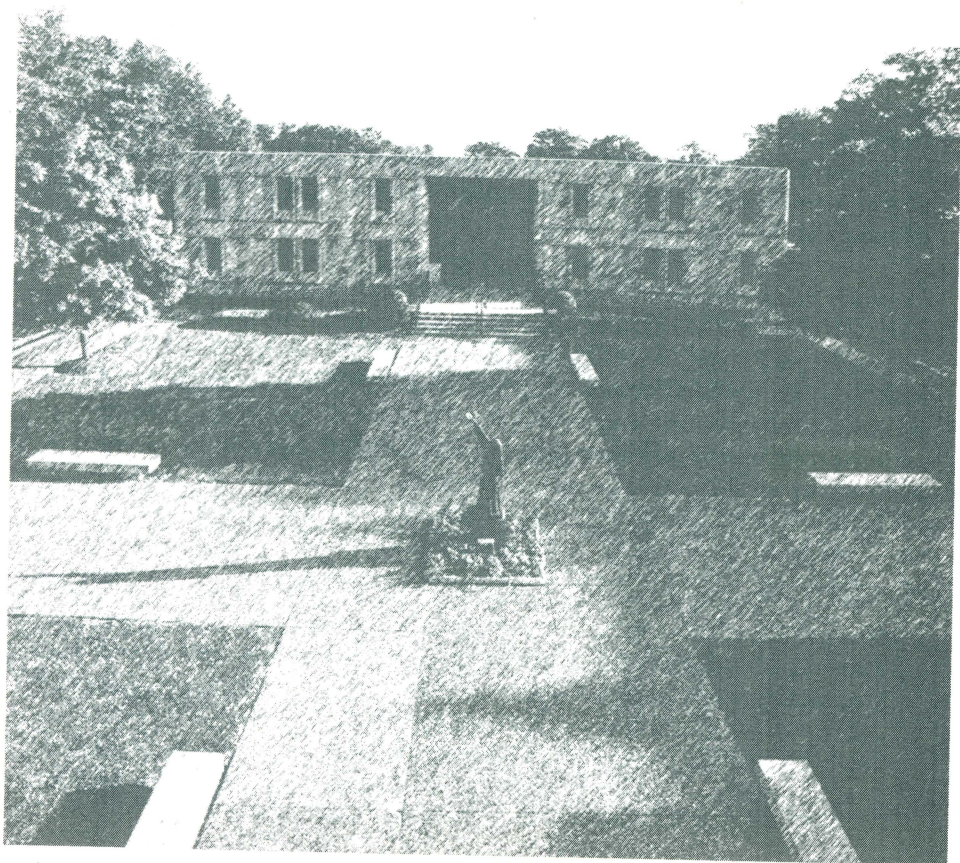
Latin Honors and Dean's Awards for May 2018 graduates are considered provisional until all grades are received and graduation requirements confirmed.

*July 31, 2018 graduation

**December 14, 2018 graduation

°Dual Degrees

†Dual Majors



HONORARY DEGREE

awarded to

Adelaide Lancaster, M.A., M.Ed.

Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa
This Seventh Day of May, Two Thousand and Eighteen

Adelaide Lancaster is a Philadelphia native relatively new to St. Louis who, as an engaged citizen, has embraced her new neighbors in true “dear neighbor” spirit. Shortly after her move to St. Louis, protests in Ferguson turned the region into a national focal point for issues of racial equity. In response, she co-founded We Stories, a nonprofit organization that uses children’s literature to challenge children and their parents to address issues of race and racism.

The We Stories blog describes the organization’s initial hopes: “We wanted to believe that the interest of these families represented what was and is possible. We wanted to believe that they would go deep and lean into the discomfort together. We wanted to believe that they could transform their own families’ experience about race and also become a transformational force for our region.”

We Stories has met and continues to exceed those original goals. In their first year alone, the organization served more than 600 white and multiracial families as they sought to raise children who will transform the racial landscape of St. Louis; today, that number is in the thousands. In 2016, We Stories was selected from a pool of more than 20,000 applicants to attend South by South Lawn, a festival for innovative ideas at the White House.

Lancaster holds a Bachelor of Arts in educational studies and sociology from Colgate University and advanced degrees in organizational psychology and counseling psychology from Columbia University. At Columbia, she focused on both racial identity development and group dynamics. Before coming to St. Louis, she co-founded In Good Company Workplaces, a co-working space in New York for women entrepreneurs. Her interest in building women’s success and satisfaction in the workplace also resulted in the publication in 2010 of her book, *The Big Enough Company: Creating a Business that Works for You*. With her husband, she also raises three young children and is active in their school district and in a variety of local civic organizations, including Forward through Ferguson.



LATIN HONORS

Latin honors reflect the academic excellence of all of the undergraduate coursework taken in preparation for the undergraduate degree. Students must earn a combined grade point average of 3.7. The correct honors category will be noted on the student's diploma and transcript after the final GPA calculation.

DEAN'S AWARD

The Dean's Award is presented to graduating seniors who transferred to Fontbonne and achieved a cumulative grade point average of 3.7 or above on a minimum of 60 credit hours taken at Fontbonne.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS

To earn the distinction of University Scholar at commencement, a student must have fulfilled the requirements for honors as defined by his or her major and the honors program.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CHAIN CEREMONY

In 1927, the first class of Fontbonne began a tradition that continues today. Originally connected to the shovel used for Fontbonne's ground-breaking in 1924, a bronze chain bears the year of the first graduating class at its head, and each subsequent graduating class is connected by square links inscribed with each graduation year. A new link is added each year at commencement ceremonies to continue this unique part of the university's history.

DECADE BANNERS

The banners displayed represent each decade of graduates in Fontbonne's history. The purple and gold banners display the school colors in honor of the more than 18,000 alumni who have graduated from Fontbonne since the first class in 1927.

THE MEANING OF THE SEAL

The Fontbonne seal contains elements that represent the university and with the history of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Fontbonne's sponsoring body. The *fleur-de-lis*, a French word for lily, is the symbol of the French royal family. In the Fontbonne seal, the *fleur-de-lis* symbolizes the French origin of the Sisters of St. Joseph, founded in France in 1650. The six *fleur-de-lis* in the seal represent the first six sisters who came to the U.S. in 1836. The lily is also the signature of St. Joseph, spouse of the Virgin Mary, foster father of Jesus, and patron saint of the Sisters of St. Joseph. The Latin words *Virtus et Scientia* indicate the nature of Fontbonne's mission and can be translated as *virtue and knowledge, valor and erudition, religion and scholarship*.

ACADEMIC DRESS

American academic dress consists of three types of gowns and three styles of hoods, adopted from commencement rituals of English universities.

The bachelor's gown has long, pointed open sleeves with no ornamentation. The master's gown has even longer sleeves, which are closed at the bottom but feature openings halfway down for the hands. The doctoral gown has full-length lapels of velvet and bell-shaped sleeves with three horizontal velvet bars. The color of caps and gowns is usually black; however, some universities feature doctoral gowns of distinctive colors.

The major field of study can be determined from the color of velvet facing on the hood. The hood is lined with silk in the colors of the institution which granted the degree. Fontbonne University's hood lining colors are purple and gold.

At commencement, undergraduates wear the tassel on the right side of their mortarboards, moving it to the left when their degree is conferred.

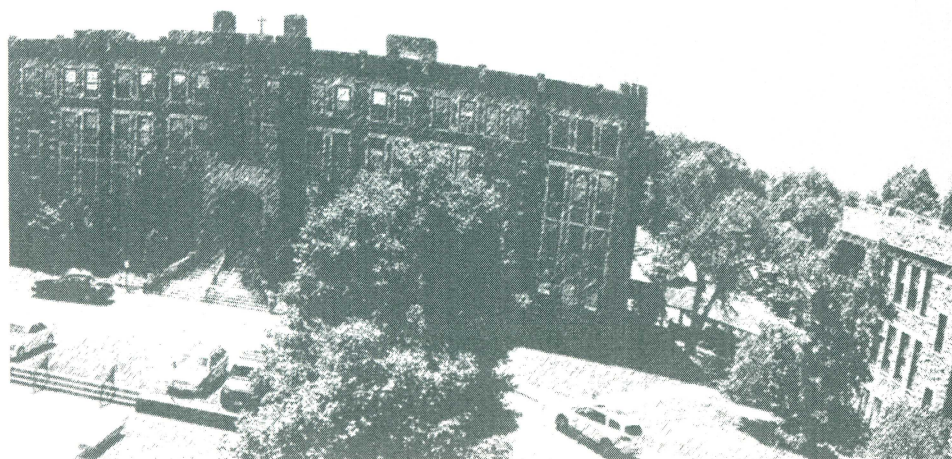
The gold cord worn by undergraduates represents graduation honors. The purple and gold cord is worn by a University Scholar. Other cords and medallions represent honor societies in which graduates are members. The wearing of white stoles signifies participation in academic convocation. International students may be wearing stoles representative of their home countries.

The academic procession is led by the faculty marshal. The marshal is traditionally the faculty member with the longest service to the university. Following the marshal are the deans leading students from their respective colleges. Members of the Fontbonne University faculty and administrative staff then follow, wearing the academic dress of their respective degree-granting institutions. The procession ends with the Fontbonne University Board of Trustees and members of the platform party.



ACADEMIC COLORS

Accountancy, Business, Commerce	drab brown
Agriculture	maize yellow
Architecture	deep lilac
Arts, Humanities, Letters	white
Dentistry	lilac
Economics	copper
Education	light blue
Engineering	orange
Fine Arts	brown
Foreign Service, Public Administration	peacock blue
Forestry	russet brown
Journalism	crimson red
Law	purple
Library Science	lemon yellow
Medicine	green
Music	pink
Nursing	apricot
Oratory (Speech)	silver grey
Pharmacy	olive
Philosophy	royal blue
Physical Education	sage
Public Health	salmon pink
Science	gold
Social Work	citron yellow
Theology	scarlet red
Veterinary Science	grey



MISSION STATEMENT

Fontbonne University, a Catholic institution sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, is committed to the common good through the daily pursuit of transformative education, inspiring students to become global citizens who think critically, act ethically and serve responsibly.

VISION

Fontbonne University aspires to be a preferred destination, committed to providing a holistic learning experience rooted in excellence, for those seeking to be educated as leaders to serve a world in need and for those dedicated to educating them.

VALUES

Fontbonne University honors the values and heritage of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet by fostering excellence, integrity, respect, diversity, community, justice, service, faith and Catholic identity.

COMMITMENT

Fontbonne University is committed to:

- Achieving academic and educational excellence
- Advancing historical remembrance, critical reflection and moral resolve
- Promoting dialogue among diverse communities
- Demonstrating care and respect for each member of the community
- Serving the larger community
- Preparing individuals to be an ethical and responsible presence to the world



STATEMENT OF CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Fontbonne affirms its identity as a Catholic university. Sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, it is founded on the beliefs that all creation reveals God, that the ministry of Jesus began a process of redemption that extends to this day, and that the Holy Spirit continues to impart grace through the daily experiences of women and men. Among the many signs of God's grace are teaching and learning, which at Fontbonne are pursued by people sharing a variety of religious beliefs and an understanding of the importance of education.

"Catholic" means "universal" and "throughout the whole," like leaven permeating bread. The permeating quality of Fontbonne is our commitment to know, to love, and to serve the truth that unites faith and reason, nature and grace, the human and the divine. The desire for a greater understanding of creation and its Creator is one of the most profound expressions of human dignity. In this sense, to learn is to augment one's capacity for love so that the thoughtful and loving acts of an educated person are a witness to the transformation of the world that began with the Resurrection and continues with the enlivening of humanity. What makes us truly human helps to unite us with the divine as we seek to understand, love and serve God and neighbor without distinction.

The permeating and universal nature of Catholicism gives rise to the mission and vision of this university. Because Fontbonne is Catholic, we embrace openness and inclusiveness. Because Fontbonne is Catholic, we pursue educational excellence. And because Fontbonne is Catholic, we seek to recognize the presence of God in all creation and to participate in the continuing transformation of ourselves and a world in need.



THE RINGING OF THE BELL

The women of the class of 1949 donated a bell for Doerr Chapel. For many years, the bell was rung for a variety of occasions, including daily prayers. The bell was also rung at each commencement, with the number of rings coinciding with the year of the graduating class (60 rings in 1960, 74 rings in 1974, and so on).

The current tradition invites graduating students to ring the bell once following the Sending Ceremony as a way to celebrate individual effort and success.



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Learn more. Be more.®

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